

CRUM'S CLAIM URGED

Local Colored Men Appeal to President and Senate—Vital Precedent Involved

A copy of the memorial in behalf of Dr. Crum, nominated for collector of the port of Charleston, S. C., which was sent to members of the Senate, has been furnished to the President. It is signed by P. B. S. Pinchback, Charles B. Purvis, M. D.; John F. Cook, Kelly Miller and Whitfield McKinley, all of this city, and urges Dr. Crum's confirmation "because of the exceptional interest excited in the case, and precedent an adverse decision would establish, and the great and financial principle involved in its correct settlement."

The memorial continues:

"After a most searching investigation of his private and public career, it is admitted that he is a man and a citizen without reproach. His intelligence and fitness for the position cannot be truthfully denied. This then reduces the issue to a question of color, and in our humble judgment the Senate of the United States is called upon to decide whether, if an American citizen who is in all other respects qualified for the discharge of civic duties, his color shall be a bar to his political preferment. The widespread agitation of this matter by the press and people of the country has carried it far beyond the personality of Dr. Crum. It now involves not only the future recognition of colored men for office, but also the very principles upon which our government is founded.

Recognition of Constitution.

"The Constitution and laws of our country, recognize the citizenship of the colored man. He is a large part of the productive energies and public functions of the communities in which he resides. Under all circumstances he is amenable to the law and must perform every duty incident to citizenship. On every battlefield, from Lexington to San Juan Hill, he has shed his blood and offered up his life in defense of his country. Since, then, there is equality for the colored man in the requirements of obedience to the law and of sacrifice for the security of the government, should there not also be equality in the enjoyment of such civic honors as are attainable by all other citizens of our common country? Certainly this is what the war amendments to the Constitution mean."

Attention is then called to the platform declarations of the two political parties concerning these amendments to the Constitution, and the petition continues:

"The Democratic party has had full control of the governments of the Southern States for more than a quarter of a century. All their legislation relative to the colored man has contradicted the solemn declaration upon which they claimed to have won a nation victory in 1876. In several of the states they have divested the colored race of the political rights conferred upon them by the Federal Constitution, which they professed to accept as a settlement of the controversies engendered by the civil war. Not content with proper and wholesome safe guards of the franchise applicable to all classes alike, they have by cunning devices made their restrictions operative only against the Negro. Emboldened by their apparent success, they now demand that the colored man shall not be deemed eligible to appointment to office.

Other Appointments of Colored Men.

"The nomination of a colored man for collector of the port is not exceptional. President Harrison appointed, and the Senate confirmed, N. W. Cuney, as collector at Galveston, Tex., the second largest port of entry in the South; John H. Deveaux, at Brunswick, Ga.; Robert Smalls, at Beaufort, S. C.; and John C. Dancy, at Wilmington, N. C. President McKinley appointed and the Senate confirmed, John H. Deveaux, collector at Savannah, Ga.; Robert Smalls, at Beaufort, S. C.; and John C. Dancy, at Wilmington, N. C. All these men served full terms with credit to themselves

and to the satisfaction of the government. President Roosevelt has reappointed and the Senate has confirmed John H. Deveaux, collector, at Savannah, Ga.; and Robert Smalls, at Beaufort, S. C.

"There is no unusual demand on the part of colored men for reappointment to Federal office. At present there are fewer of them holding Presidential office in the South than under any other Republican administration since that of President Grant.

"If your honorable body should refuse its consent to the appointment of Dr. Crum, it will not only further encourage and embolden the enemies of the colored race to degrade and humiliate it, but it will be inductive to a revival of the infamous doctrine cited in the Dred Scott decision, viz: That a Negro has no rights that a white man is bound to respect.

"We hold that one-seventh of the population of the republic cannot be successfully segregated from their fellow-men, and the attempt on the part of Southern politicians to make political capital out of the crusade they have inaugurated against the colored race along this line—which is as ungenerous and un-American as it is unjust—will never be sanctioned by the liberty-loving, conscientious and fair-minded people of this great republic."

BRUCE GRIT'S MELANGE.

Continued from first page.

the President and the Negro. They are ridiculously funny, these anti-administration organs. They have more to say against the President than, the hundreds of reputable newspapers that do not carry prudent personal advertisements of lecherously inclined inclined gentlemen (?) that endorse his manly and courageous stand in the Crum case—and all other cases into which enter the elements of justice and humanity. The Herald's bark is more dangerous than its bite. It is a free lance—that's all.

The Unitarians have always stood for justice and fair play for all men, regardless of color. The bravest men in any pulpit during the anti-slavery struggle in this country, with one or two exceptions were Unitarian clergymen, and they spoke like angels, trumpet-tongued, against the hell-black iniquity, human slavery.

All the poets but one or two, who wrote against human slavery were men identified with the great Unitarian Church.

In the New York assembly chamber, on February 19th, my good friend Rev. W. M. Brundage, minister of the First Unitarian Church, Albany, opened the session with prayer, and this was his prayer:

O, God, Our Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the consciousness that Thou art Our Father. Whatever our condition in life, whatever our creed, Thou art the Father of us all. And we begin all our work in the consciousness that we are Thy children; that we ought to work together as one body for the good of all. We pray that we may all regard the interests of all, seeking to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Thee; seeking to secure justice and liberty and freedom of opportunity for every man, whatever his race, whatever his creed. Help us to be true children of Thine. Help us to work together for the good of humanity. Guide and direct us by Thy spirit. Amen.

The Negro need not despair as long as there are such men in the pulpits of the North as Dr. Brundage to plead his cause, and to cry out against the wrongs which are constantly being heaped upon him. There is a limit to all things that are not in harmony with God's Justice, and in His own way He has always humbled the haughty and self-righteous nation who have oppressed the poor and the weak and who having the strength of a giant have used it as a giant. As Sojourner Truth told Frederick Douglass, "God is not dead," says Isaiah XI. 11-12; and it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people which shall be left from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathras, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar or Chaldaea, and from Hamath, and from the Islands of the Sea; and He shall

set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah, from the four corners of the earth." And verse 13 reads: "The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim." Herodotus says that these peoples were the descendants of Ham, the Grecian Historians denominated them blacks, with frizzly or curly hair.

That portion of the earth which was first peopled after Adam and Eve had left Paradise, was the land of Ethiopia by the Ethiopians, on the river Gihon, that went out of the garden of Eden, "which compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia, 4003 B. C. The children of Ethiopia were from Adam to Nvah, through the lineage of Seth. Gen. V. The descendants of these "blameless Ethiopians," are having a pretty hard time now, but there is really no occasion for fear as to the ultimate result of the struggle through which they are now passing in this country and in Africa. The prophecy contained in Isaiah has not yet found its fulfillment. We are standing on the edge of the future—a future big with promise to all the oppressed peoples of the earth, and when that promise materializes—to be a Negro will be the proudest title any man can bear. All this noise the South, and is re-echoed in the North in one form or another is born about the Negro that comes up from of the intuitive knowledge that a day of reckoning is coming. Might has constituted itself *Right*, in the social evolution of the races, and so strongly is it entrenched in power over the earth that it believes itself invincible and invulnerable at every point. These notions do not square with God's notions of right, and justice and the righteousness "which exalteth a nation." For the sake of argument we will admit that the white race is on top in this country and in Europe, just now it occupies the centre of the stage, the synosure of all eyes. The performance however will not be continuous. The dark race is the last race. It is absorbing and assimilating and digesting the lessons which these so-called superior races are teaching, 'gainst the time when the command to Ethiopia to "stretch forth her hands unto God shall be thundered from the blue empyrean—and then all nations shall bow and confess that God is the Lord and that His mercies endure forever. To the Negro let me say in the words of the Poet:

Naught without can keep you back
Rise above it;
In yourself is all the luck
Rise above it;
There is nothing that can mar
Life for you, but what you are;
If there's any inward bar
Rise above it!

This world doesn't belong to any nation, it belongs to God, and all of God's children are citizens of His mighty Republic. There never was, and there never will be a white man's country, or a black man's country, in all the world. In God's country there are no distinctions of class or race, and the buttonheaded white men of the South, who prate about a white man's country and white domination, could not have such a thing if they thier because in nearly all of the old slave states of the South, the white man has mingled his blood with the Negro, and there's scarcely a pure white man in that section, and they know it.

BRUCE GRIT.

EXAMPLE SHOULD BE FOLLOWED.

I purchased a copy of COLORED AMERICAN this week with B. T. Washington's picture as supplement. I consider this step an advancement in Negro journalism and one which our better Negroes would do well to follow. I consider your paper confined to no class or sect but a pair of the people. I congratulate Your paper is the sweetest scented rose that has bloomed in the garden of journalism during the past and present century. Hope you will keep it up. success than now imaginable.

Very truly yours,
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